



Bell Buckle Park

Bell Buckle, TN 37020 • www.bellbucklepark.info

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WARD ANDERSON MEMORIAL PLAYGROUND TO BE INSTALLED IN OCTOBER



A children's playground will be installed in the Bell Buckle Park in memory of Ward Anderson, son of James and Julie Anderson, who died in a tragic accident in July.

The 6,000 square foot playground includes a big kid's play set, a toddler play station, a tether ball set and a swing set with 8 swings set on a resilient wood based surface.

Installation will begin on Friday, October 21 and continue thru Saturday and Sunday if needed. A representative from the playground equipment company, Leisure Lines Inc. will direct the installation. The construction supervisor will need 20 to 30 people to assist in the construction of the equipment. The work will continue through rain or shine.

Please plan now to help. Many have already expressed a desire to help with the installation. Your involvement will result in considerable savings. A signup sheet is in Town Hall.

The dedication ceremony is scheduled for 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 28 at the playground. For more information check our website: www.bellbucklepark@info.com

Donations for the construction of the playground can be made payable to:
Town of Bell Buckle/Bell Buckle Park/Ward Anderson
Railroad Square, Bell Buckle, Tennessee 37020

Julie Anderson, September 26, 2005

James and I are deeply and truly touched by the outpouring of compassion and support that loved ones and even strangers have given us since we lost Ward. The generosity that playground donors have shown is both humbling and uplifting.

We want Ward's playground to be a joyful place, and it's our hope that families will treasure the fun times they have with their children there. Gray and Jack are also excited and proud, and are looking forward to spending a lot of time playing with friends and family at the park.

Thank you all so very much for your loving support and generous help with Ward's playground. It's a beautiful tribute to a very beautiful little boy.

PICNIC PAVILLION TO HONOR COOP PARENTS

The Picnic Pavilion to be placed in the Bell Buckle Park has been donated by the Coop family in honor of their parents, P.G. Coop (1920-1995) and Ruth Lents Coop (1925-2004)



The Coop family, led by Revolutionary War veteran Horatio Coop, settled on Bell Buckle Creek in 1810. Descendants of the family have lived in Bell Buckle and Deason since that time. Other members of the original Coop family farmed in the area and operated a livery stable as well as a boarding house for Webb students.

Mrs. Ruth Lents Coop was from the Wheel Community. In 1956, Mr. and Mrs. P.G. Coop

purchased the William Ransom Coop home place on Fairfield Pike about three miles south of Bell Buckle and lived there for the rest of their lives. Mr. Coop was a farmer and livestock inspector for the USDA and Mrs. Coop was advertising manager of the

Shelbyville Times-Gazette.

The Coop's sons, Tom, Phil and Jack grew up in Bell Buckle and attended the Bell Buckle Elementary school.

They have donated the Bell Buckle Park Picnic Pavilion as a lasting tribute and as a memorial to their parents.

NEW HOLIDAY COOKBOOK PLANNED

A new Bell Buckle Park cookbook is being created that will feature the holiday recipes from the great cooks in our community.

We invite you to submit one or more of your favorite recipes. Be sure to include your name and phone number with your recipe, ingredients and directions.

Do you have a special memory of Bell Buckle? In addition to your favorite recipes,



We want to include your memories of people and events from days gone by. We would like to include historic photos and present day photos also.

You may leave your recipes and your recollections at Town Hall or mail them to Box 278, Bell Buckle, TN 37020.

Can you help with this project? Please contact any Park Board member.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Memorial bricks for the park are now on sale. These bricks, engraved with your name or the name of someone you wish to honor, will be placed in a prominent area of the park and will become a lasting part of the park. Mark Felices, who is in charge of this program, has samples and prices for you to choose from. For more information, you may contact him at 931-389-9223.

Give the Gift of Life - Give a Tree To plant a tree is a gift of generosity and kindness and a worthy way to celebrate special occasions and pay tribute to life's many milestones. A gift of trees is suitable for memorials, graduations, birthdays, anniversaries or any life passage or achievement you want to celebrate or honor. The Bell Buckle Tree Board welcomes your donation.

The Bell Buckle Park Newsletter is now online. **The interactive Master Plan** of the park is online also. Log on to learn about the unique features of the park. www.bellbucklepark.info

WALKING TRAIL OPENING SOON

The Walking Trail, the most popular project selected in a survey of Bell Buckle residents, is scheduled to be completed by the end of September. The trail will be 9/10th of a mile long and 8 feet wide with an asphalt surface.

The trail will have two entrances—behind the parking lot and adjacent to the existing pavilion. It will continue down the right side of the park and loop back around to the front. Future plans are for the trail to circle the amphitheater and the playground and connect to the new Coop Pavilion. Landscaping will begin after the trail is completed. Grass, trees and shrubs will add to the beauty of the whole area.

Quint Craig, son of Ed and Lucy Craig, will be constructing a bridge over the creek along the walking trail. He has chosen this project as part of his Eagle Scout program. Help with construction materials or a monetary donation would be greatly appreciated. Contact Quint at 931-680-9630.

The Walking Trail is being built with funds provided by a grant from the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation. This grant provides for the installation of the walking trail, lighting and landscaping.

The Park board expects that the walking trail will be in full use by Bell Buckle citizens and visitors alike in the near future.

PARK PROGRESS



Landscape Architect Josh presents the park plan



Groundbreaking day and the Park Board is all smiles



Cliff Carloff, Josh, and James Anderson study the grading plan



Cliff spends many hours on the bulldoz



Loads of dirt are needed for the drainage correction



Larry Lowman directs the tree planting for the arboretum



James and Josh mark off the boundaries of the Amphitheatre



Deloitte & Touche volunteers work on memorial markers

Special Thanks

to

Cliff Carlock who has worked evenings and weekends to grade the site.

The Bedford County Highway Department for the use of their equipment.

Larry Lowman for his help in procuring and planting trees for the Arboretum.

Jenny Hunt for her determination and tireless energy to see this project completed.

Janet Robinson for coordinating the Ward Anderson Memorial Fund and her sweet spirit always.



Bell Buckle, Tennessee 37020

FROM THE BELL BUCKLE PARK BOARD

It has been nine years since Bell Buckle citizens voted for a 1/2 cent sales tax to be used for construction of a park. In June, 2001, Mayor Key named the present board. The mission of the board was clear - to build a park based on the needs and desires of Bell Buckle citizens.

From the beginning, the Park Board has focused not on IF but HOW and WHEN it was going to happen. The decisions made were based on the information gathered from the community survey. The master plan incorporated all the features that were given the highest priority on the survey; a walking/jogging trail, a children's playground, an outdoor stage/amphitheatre and picnic facilities.

We knew that the accumulated 1/2 cent sales tax would not be adequate to build the park and that we would have to pursue every available avenue for funds including grants and donations. The Community Foundation of Nashville grant was used for needed dirt, the USDA, Forestry Division grant for a 30 tree arboretum and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation grant for the Walking Trail gave us great momentum. The Tennessee Arts Commission grant helped us toward the purchase of the Russ Faxon sculpture, "Blowing Bubbles".

We are grateful for a great number of benefactors. The Coop family, who are giving the Picnic Pavilion, the friends of James and Julie Anderson who have made contributions to the Ward Memorial Playground and the many other contributors and volunteers who have and will continue to donate their time and talent for valuable in-kind contributions, have made this park a reality.

The decision of the Leadership Bedford Class of 2002 to relocate their amphitheatre project to the Bell Buckle Park made a huge impact. With the building of the amphitheatre the major elements of the park will be complete. The amphitheatre is in the hands of general contractor Kaye Adcock. Present plans call for groundbreaking to begin in the spring of 2006.

The success of the park will be measured by how much it is used by those in the community. Because we kept the survey responses always in mind and listened to what citizens had to say, we believe that the park will be enjoyed by young and old alike.

We are a unique town; a small town with a big heart and soon we will have a unique park that will provide a safe, beautiful environment. It will be a place to gather - a place that contributes to our sense of community. We'll be saying often, **"Let's meet at the park!"**



PARK BOARD MEMBERS:

Larry Lowman, Chairman Jenny Hunt, Carla Webb, Katherine Strobel, Florence Hall, James Anderson, Katie Felices, Mark Felices